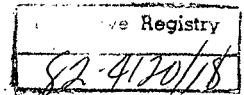


Washington, D.C. 20505



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EA 82-0150/G

Honorable Benjamin S. Rosenthal, Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Consumer, and
Monetary Affairs
Committee on Government Operations
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for allowing us to comment on the draft memorandum to your Members on a meeting to discuss declassification of CIA documents relating to OPEC investments and issues. In reviewing the document, we discovered that certain portions of it contained classified information. We have provided a copy of those findings to your staff and have asked them to handle it in keeping with its classification.

I recognize that you believe that it is important for the public to be informed about OPEC investments in our country. I must remind you again, however, that the publication of this classified material by your Subcommittee will result in the closing off of the sensitive sources from which it comes. When that happens, it will not be available to us, to you, or anyone else. I am convinced that the public interest will not be served by such a development. Again, thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence

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